

The Charlotte Catholic Chronicle

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VOLUME XXVII, ISSUE IV THE CHARLOTTE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT NEWSPAPER FOUR PAGES

Scheduling conflicts inflame drama team frustrations

RORY QUIGLEY
Staff Reporter

The drama department had been planning a production for Catholic students during school to raise money for Mr. Billard's travel drama troop. Although students purchased, the school-day production was ultimately cancelled because of a scheduling conflict with the Charlotte Catholic sponsored wrestling tournament and was forced to rescheduled after school the following Tuesday.

"These are just problems that drama has to deal with every year," said senior Colin Wilson. "They are normally this big but, we always find a solution." Wilson worked with sound for the latest production and is currently in the travel drama team.

The play *Dog's Breath Devereaux: the Dastardly Doctor or Nurses! Foiled Again*, was originally formatted as a theatrical dinner for December 10 in the cafeteria for friends and parents of students in the production, but was cancelled, because ticket sales could not cover rising costs.

"It's just frustrating more than



THE STUDENT PRODUCTION OF DOG'S BREATH DEVEREAUX THE DASTARDLY DOCTOR OR NURSES! FOILED AGAIN DEBUTED TUESDAY JANUARY 10 AFTER SCHEDULING COMPLICATIONS
PHOTO CREDIT: JOHN ARMSTRONG

anything," said Wilson, "it was one thing to have to move to the gym, but when the play almost got cancelled it caused frustration in all of us."

Mr. Carpenter requested to Mr. Billard that they perform for the students as an assembly and sell tickets to the students along with the dress down day. The date was

set for January 9, but the school accidentally double booked the gym causing the conflict between the drama rehearsal and the school's wrestling tournament.

"I don't blame anyone for what happened to the play's movement," said Mr. Billard, "we are a school that prides itself in athletics and rightfully so, but we also have

other important programs at this school and this was an opportunity for kids to see what they normally wouldn't see on their own."

When the play was cancelled for the second time Mr. Billard took it upon himself to go find another time slot. The play was permitted to reschedule for January 10 because of a cancelled wrestling match that evening.

The emotional toll caused by the play's change resulted more from of frustration than that of anger or resentment towards the administration.

"We had been practicing for four months and had reached a point where there was nothing else to do but perform, only to learn that we couldn't," said senior Yasmine Gausi, who plays the role of Lotta Cash in the play.

With only one stage, there is nothing the drama team can do but compete for time against other after school programs, the biggest one

being sports.

"There is only one gym, so it's hard to equally share the gym space and be perfectly happy with how much time you are given," said Wilson.

Many members of the cast were looking forward to finally performing during school hours where most students would be able to attend, rather than a post-school production for a smaller, less familiar crowd. The department was also looking to inspire more students to participate in the various productions held each year.

"As of now we only have two people that aren't upper classmen," said Gausi. "In order for this program to last we need better participation and this play could have increased that."

The drama team has moved on and is now looking forward to working on its next production as well as the traveling drama troop's trip to California.

The horrors of parking on Little Avenue

KELLY COOK
Staff Reporter

On December 19th, seven students received parking tickets for leaving their cars in the cul-de-sac just off of Little Avenue. The fine was only \$25, but the price was not what had students talking the next day.

Parking on Little has been an issue for what seems like forever. Every graduating class has had their own complaints and concerns with the situation, yet the matter has never been resolved.

Those who received the parking tickets that afternoon were violating traffic laws, since there is a no parking sign near the entrance to the cul-de-sac, but the students have a valid argument.

The question is, where else are students supposed to park? The faculty's usual answer is a simple, "Get here earlier," but this does not remotely resemble a solution. If all



LITTLE AVENUE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FRUSTRATION FOR STUDENTS BUT A RECENT ACCIDENT HAS THEM WORRIED ABOUT SAFETY.
PHOTO CREDIT: KELLY COOK

students arrive earlier, many will still be left without a place to park.

Also, as long as Catholic's population continues to grow, the problem is only going to worsen. There have been rumors of a parking deck in the future, but the plans remain hazy and it's impossible to know when such a deck will actually be built.

Some students who received tickets, such as junior Ana Waits, believe there are measures that could be taken immediately to resolve the issue.

"Sophomores should not be parking on Little. That should be an upperclassmen privilege because most of the people who park on Little now are sophomores and

there's never any room for us," Waits said.

Another solution proposed by the students came from junior Catherine Crotty who would be willing to pay to park somewhere near campus.

"The shopping centers and the old library have tons of parking spaces during the day. The school should work something out with them so that we can have more parking. Even if it meant I had to pay, I would do it," said Crotty.

In the future, it would be ideal if parking on Little was no longer necessary, not only because it's a hassle, but because the road isn't safe to begin with. The speed limit on the road is much too fast and multiple accidents have occurred in the past, many of them involving students.

Most recently, a sophomore was hit by an oncoming car while attempting to walk across Little. The student was unharmed, but the

incident should never have occurred in the first place. A cross walk or school zone signs should be placed on the road, warning drivers that extra caution needs to be taken on Little during the school week.

Further problems arise from the fact that Little is not reserved for student parking, but is open to anyone. People living in the apartments occasionally park their own cars on Little, and on some days students are deprived of multiple spaces by a huge truck parked right on the road.

"The truck takes up almost three spaces when it's there! I'm never early enough to park there anyways, but it's still annoying to see that," Waits said.

Students are beginning to get fed up with the hassle of parking on Little each morning, and at this point, any solution would be warmly welcomed by sophomores and juniors alike.

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Sports

Rugby Team sets sights on a regional title

RORY QUIGLEY
Staff Reporter

The Catholic Rugby team has begun its rigorous preseason workouts for the oncoming spring season. Although they are currently ranked fourth in the nation, many inspect them to finish higher.

Coached by Mr. Keane, a history teacher here at Catholic, the varsity squad is defending state and regional champions for two years running and seeks to continue its success.

“I think we will do just as well, if not better than last year,” said junior Will Johnson, “we have lost a lot of our seniors, but we’ll do just as good.” Johnson was moved up from JV last year before regionals began along with Ryan Auger. He currently plays prop for the cougars.

The squad’s biggest challenge for this season will be coping with the loss of over ten players who graduated last year. Without the Nick Johnson’s speed Captain Nick Funck’s leadership out of the picture the team looks for guidance from the current seniors.

“The old seniors were really



CHARLOTTE CATHOLIC’S RUGBY TEAM WENT UNDEFEATED LAST SEASON AND ADVANCED ALL THE WAY TO THE NATIONAL RUGBY TOURNAMENT IN SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH AND HOPES TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE AGAIN THIS YEAR. PHOTO CREDIT: CATHOLICRUGBY.ORG/PHOTOS

good. Insane really, pretty much like Nick Funck,” said junior Emerson Underwood, “but we have a lot of great seniors this year too, like Andres Alvarado.” Underwood currently plays hooker

for the cougars and Alvarado is positioned at scrum half.

Other seniors include Murphy Swancy and Jackson Krone who is new to the Catholic squad this year.

While a national title seems

farfetched for almost all of the team at Catholic, this year’s rugby squad is not worried about making it there. The team lost to Gonzaga for the past two years while searching for the desired national title, but is

determined not to let that happen again.

“We will pull together as a band of brothers and wreak havoc on the nation at nationals this year,” said Underwood.

Another huge asset for the team is its head coach Mr. Keane, who has led the team to reach for the high goals they have already achieved.

“Keane is the reason we are so good,” said Underwood, “he pushes us so we are on that national level.”

Keane along with JV assistant coach, Bernie Funck, are running the preseason training for the squad. The workouts are aimed to strengthen each player physically to get in prime physical condition for the season, but simultaneously reinforce the bond between the players.

Women’s Soccer Team has high expections for upcoming season

BRAD NELSON
Staff Reporter

The Charlotte Catholic Women’s Soccer team capped off a remarkable 2011 season with a thrilling win in the state finals. This season, the team expects exactly what they achieved last year: a state championship.

Last season, the Lady Cougars experienced a regular season of ups and downs, but kept their eye on the prize throughout the playoffs. Memories of the regular season faded after a spectacular playoff run and a win in the state championship.

Although several talented players were lost due to graduation, the Lady Cougars have high expectations this season. The team will have many key players returning, such as Juniors Jane Cline and Anna Waits, who were both goal scorers in last year’s state final.

The Women’s soccer team has always been respected at Charlotte Catholic, displaying great character on and off the field. All students agree that the girl’s state title was well deserved.

Girls soccer games, played in the spring, are increasingly regarded as some of the most entertaining events at Charlotte Catholic. “I really like going to girls soccer games; there are a lot of exciting plays and it’s a social event too” said Junior Wilson Brown.

Women’s soccer is popular in Charlotte and also very competitive. Girls at Charlotte Catholic come from all different clubs and play year round at a high level. Charlotte Soccer Club, Charlotte United,

South Charlotte, and Lake Norman are a few of the soccer clubs that girls in Charlotte can play for.

Making the team is challenging, mainly because so many girls play at a high level. Some very skilled players do not even get the opportunity to play for the Lady Cougars because Catholic is such a competitive school.

The players are very excited for the 2012 season. “I think we have a good shot at repeating, we just want to be competitive in every game and hopefully bring back another state championship” said junior player Jane Cline.

The players are not the only ones looking forward to the season; the student body is also excited. “I hope the soccer team is as good as they were last year, It would be fun to make the trip up to states and support the team” said Junior Tommy Eagle.

As the soccer season draws closer, the Lady Cougars are poised to make another run at the state cup.

SAM LEFLORE
Staff Reporter

Does God really care if Tim Tebow wins on Sundays? More than likely no, but that doesn’t excuse

the fact that the Tim Tebow train has been tearing through the nation during the final games of the regular season, and the beginning of the post season.

The reason true football fans would like Tebow would be for his outstanding abilities as a quarterback, not for his devout Christianity. People who aren’t avid football fans might like Tebow for the fact that he is a wholesome person, who has a strong faith in God, and wins football games.

People could argue that he just has a good team built around him and that’s why he does so well. That’s like saying that a car is fast because the components built around the motor are so good; it just doesn’t make any sense.

Tebow was the Heisman Trophy winner in 2007 and was the first sophomore to ever win the award. During his college career at Florida, Tebow led the Gators to two national championships and was the first college quarterback to ever throw and run for 20 touchdowns in one season. So, I wouldn’t say that Tebow is just an average

quarterback on a good team, Tebow is a great quarterback leading a great team.

Tebow also has his own rule in college football; it forbids players to write messages on their eyes



TEBOW’S PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF HIS FAITH HAVE DRAWN BOTH PRAISE AND CRITICISM FROM MEMBERS OF THE SPORTING WORLD. PHOTO CREDIT: SPORTSILLUSTRATED.COM

paint. He would frequently post bible references. In the 2009 BCS championship, he wrote John 3:16 on his eye paint and it became the number one Google search trend for the next 24 hours, which was searched over 90 million times.

Going into the 2010 NFL draft Tebow’s talent was debated by many coaches, some saying he would be a top ten draft pick, that he was going to revolutionize the game, and some said that he didn’t have the qualities of a good quarterback.

Tebow ended up going 25th overall to the Denver Broncos. In his first season with the Broncos, he

was the fourth string quarterback, but his jersey was the number 1 selling jersey in the NFL.

Starting this year’s season Tebow was listed as the second string quarterback, behind Kyle Orton.

He didn’t see his first game until the 5th week of the season, when Orton was pulled out for playing poorly, at halftime. Tebow rallied the team back from a 16 point deficit and almost one the game. After his performance in the game, Broncos head coach, John Fox, named Tebow as the new starting quarterback.

Tebow went 7-4 for the regular season and he and his team were named AFC West title in a tiebreaker.

During the Broncos first playoff game against the Pittsburgh Steelers on January 8th, Tebow threw for 316 yards and his yards per completion were 31.6. Many people have been relating that to his favorite Bible passage John 3:16. This verse was the top Google trend the next day behind “Tebow” and “Tim Tebow”

Tim Tebow’s stats speak for themselves on why he has such a great fan base and why he is such a great quarterback.

Features

Mrs. Madden takes over as new Physics teacher

KERRI HUGHES
Staff Reporter

With the departure of physics teacher, Mr. Jordan, Charlotte Catholic had the pleasure of welcoming a new staff member to its family.

Mrs. Madden, grew up in South Port, North Carolina. She graduated from Gilford College, where she earned a Bachelor’s degree in both Chemistry and Psychics, with a minor in French.

In fact, Mrs. Madden admits to having a slight obsession with France.

“Mr. Jordan had Canada, and I have France,” she said. “I love everything about it.”

Mr. Jordan was famous for putting Canadian trivia on tests for extra credit. Will students now have to brush up on French trivia?

“Probably not,” she said. Sorry, guys.

Charlotte Catholic is not the

first school that Mrs. Madden has taught in. She used to teach both physical science and physics at High Point Central High School. But she claims that she is very impressed with Charlotte Catholic and has enjoyed it so far.



MRS. MADDEN IS EXCITED TO TEACH PHYSICS AT CCHS. PHOTO CREDIT: KERRI HUGHES

“I have only been teaching here for a short while, but still, the kids are so much nicer than I expected. Everything seems really laid back compared to public schools. It is

much more relaxed here,” she said. “I really like that.”

When asked if Mrs. Madden had anything cool to share about herself, she claimed to not have much.

“I’m kind of boring,” she said, laughing. “I’ve got two kids. They’re four and one. But I did work as a chemist in both Monroe and Goulston. Neither was really all that interesting, but I did get to develop codes for polyester manufacturing, so that was pretty cool.”

Now for the big question on all of her students’ minds: What’s her attitude towards grading? Mr. Jordan was notorious for taking it easy on labs, though whether his tests were difficult or not was always a toss-up.

“I tend to take it easy on labs. There are just so many, and it is really time consuming to go through each one carefully. And I already told the kids in my classes: I consider it much more important that they are able to understand the concept rather than give me a number answer.”

Overall, Mrs. Madden is excited to be teaching at CCHS, and we gladly welcome her to our school.

Sky High becomes newest teen fad

KYLIE RYAN
Staff Reporter

Those fantasies every child has about a room made entirely of trampolines is finally a reality. The grand opening of North Carolina’s first Sky High Sports has caused great commotion among the students at Charlotte Catholic.

Imagine yourself in a room with trampolines for the floor and walls and you’ve got Sky High. The facility is one big warehouse with three main platforms made entirely of trampolines. One is strictly for jumping while the smaller two are a dodge ball arena and a foam pit diving station.

Since the opening in November Sky High has become a popular hangout for students all across the Charlotte area. Walk into Sky High on any given night and you’re sure to find at least five Charlotte Catholic students.

“It’s a really awesome place, and it’s open late so my friends and I go there when we’re bored and looking for something to do,” said senior Austin Jones.

Sky High is expanding through the country with its newest location in Charlotte. The craze, started by two brothers, began in California

and has spread through most of the western United States and part of the Northeast.

Sky High brings in a colorful demographic, ranging from young adults, teenagers, children, trained athletes, and just about anyone you could imagine.

“It’s crazy seeing all the people doing intense acrobatics and then everyone else who can barely jump straight,” said senior Caty Delcasino.

Charlotte’s Sky High hasn’t even reached its full potential yet. In a few months the private jump room for parties will open along with the kid’s jump room. They will be offering an “AIRrobics” class as well, that focuses on burning calories while enjoying time on the trampolines.

Sky High is the perfect place for those broke teenagers to have a good time with their freinds. friends. You must be eighteen to jump or just have a parent sign a waiver and you’re set to go.

The opening of a Sky High in Charlotte was met with a lot of skepticism, but as proved by the popularity of the jump house among Charlotte Catholic students alone it looks like Sky High will be a popular hangout for years to come.

Opinion - Editorial

2012 end of the world predictions clarified

TYLER SCHILLY
Staff Reporter

If this was your last year on Earth how would you spend it? Unfortunately for those among us, including me, who rather enjoy living, the doomsday predictions for this December 21 have made this question all too relevant. To quote the great band R.E.M, “it’s the end of the world as we know it”.

Although many people scoff at any mention of the end of the world, the December 21 prediction comes from a reliable source that deserves some attention, the Mayan calendar. The Mayans calculated the length of the lunar cycle to nearly exactly the same value that is used today, and if they were smart enough to determine that accurately, any other findings in their calendar should also be given credibility.

The Mayan calendar is divided into time periods called b’ak’tuns, and the end of 2012 coincides with the end of the thirteenth b’ak’tun. This is significant because it has been long believed that at the end of the thirteenth b’ak’tun an event of huge significance will occur, possibly the apocalypse.

Another apocalyptic theory for the coming year involves Nibiru, an immense space rock, which is scheduled to either pass or collide with the Earth this year. Many people have dismissed this idea,



AS 2012 BEGINS, THERE IS MUCH DEBATE WHETHER PREDICTIONS OF THE END OF THE WORLD ARE TRUE. PHOTO CREDIT: MOONBATTERY.COM

since Nibiru was initially supposed to collide with Earth in 2003, but it would be unwise to completely ignore this threat. Space is such a distant, mysterious place, no one on Earth can claim to have total knowledge of what will or will not happen there.

Various other astronomical theories predict the end of the

world this year, but their complexity would make them near impossible to describe in brevity. The point is that numerous sources indicate that the world will end this year, and odds are at least one of them will prove to be true.

The wiser students at Charlotte Catholic have decided to give heed to 2012 warnings, although

many of them differ in their predictions for how the apocalypse will actually transpire. For example, junior Michael Parra has an unscientific opinion on the end of the world.

“I would say that the world is going to end because of an alien invasion,” he said.

While an alien invasion is not predicted by scientists or many other people, Parra’s willingness to acknowledge that the world probably will end this year is refreshing. It is time for humans to stop believing themselves to be invincible, and to realize that at some point, be it in 2012 or in 3012, the world will end. Since there are more reasons to believe that the year 2012 will be our last than there have been in any year in recent memory, we should accept our fate and prepare for the end.

Girls don’t abide by the same rules for sadies

TOMAS ROY
Staff Reporter

For some people, drama and gossip occupy a significant amount of their day to day lives, but everyone at Charlotte Catholic knows that about a month before a school dance, everyone is whispering about some new development concerning dates or groups every single day. Just as everyone is getting used to the new school year in the fall, some hopeful boy decides to be the first to ask his date to Homecoming over a month before the dance, just to be safe. This starts a chain reaction and suddenly more and more girls get asked every day.

In contrast, the Sadie Hawkin’s dance is quickly approaching, and not too many boys have been asked. At the same time, I’ve still noticed a rise in gossip and rumors and friends telling their friends to find out if such and such a person will say yes if they ask them. This begs the question: what’s the big difference between boys asking girls and girls asking boys?

In my opinion, the answer is simple. It’s almost exactly the same. This might not be the case for every potential dance couple, but I think the reality is that each high school dance is dominated by what the girls want. I’m not just talking about

group plans; I think Sadie’s isn’t so different because, in the end, most girls go to the dance with someone they or their friends chose to begin with.

Maybe it’s just me, but I feel like before every Homecoming, some girl has commissioned their friend to talk to the boy they want to go with and make it known what they want. “Have you thought about asking this girl?” they’ll ask. But what they’re actually saying is “Ask her. She and her friends want you to and you’d be rude not to.”

Another typical scenario is very similar: a group of girls want to have the perfect night out but someone in their group hasn’t been asked. At this point, they prowl the single male population desperate to find someone to convince that he’s perfect to ask the leftover girl. When he declines this offer, or more appropriately, this command, he’s expected to give a valid reason, as if he’s actually been asked by the girl in question and it would be rude to say no.

For those of you who had Mrs. Shaia, you know that as Freshman, many Catholic students learn the exact etiquette of asking someone to a dance in their English class. However, I don’t agree that Mrs. Shaai would approve of a boy asking a girl and then letting her make all the plans down the the

smallest detail. It makes sences for girls to make Sadie’s group plans, but when girls insist on making Homecoming plans as well, it really breaks down any difference between the to dances.

At this point, Sadie’s isn’t a difference dance at all. Homecoming

is basically just another Sadie’s. But in light of the fact that girls haven’t already jumped on the task of asking their dates, its clear they prefer secretly getting guys to take them to a dance instead of just asking them.



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